

Whalesong

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UA system to be cut again

By Whalesong Staff

Legislators are once again looking to chop another million dollars from the University of Alaska's budget for next fiscal year.

A House Finance subcommittee this month wouldn't go along with a proposed \$3.5 million increase in state general funds as proposed last November by Gov. Knowles, and — with a few changes — they recommended flat-funding the UA system again next year. In budget proposals now under consideration, University of Alaska Anchorage would receive \$143 million, a \$4 million increase. University of Alaska Fairbanks would endure an \$8 million cut and end up with \$238 million. University of Alaska Southeast would pick up nearly \$28 million, about \$1 million above current spending levels.

However, a Senate Finance subcommittee is now thinking about trimming another \$1 million from the university system's budget next year.

Total state general fund spending is currently \$164 million, with the remainder of the \$443 million budget made up of federal funds, student fees, and other receipts.

Regents think that even a \$3.5 million increase is not enough, and last week they warned about the potential damage if the system has to endure further cuts.

UAS forum draws community leaders

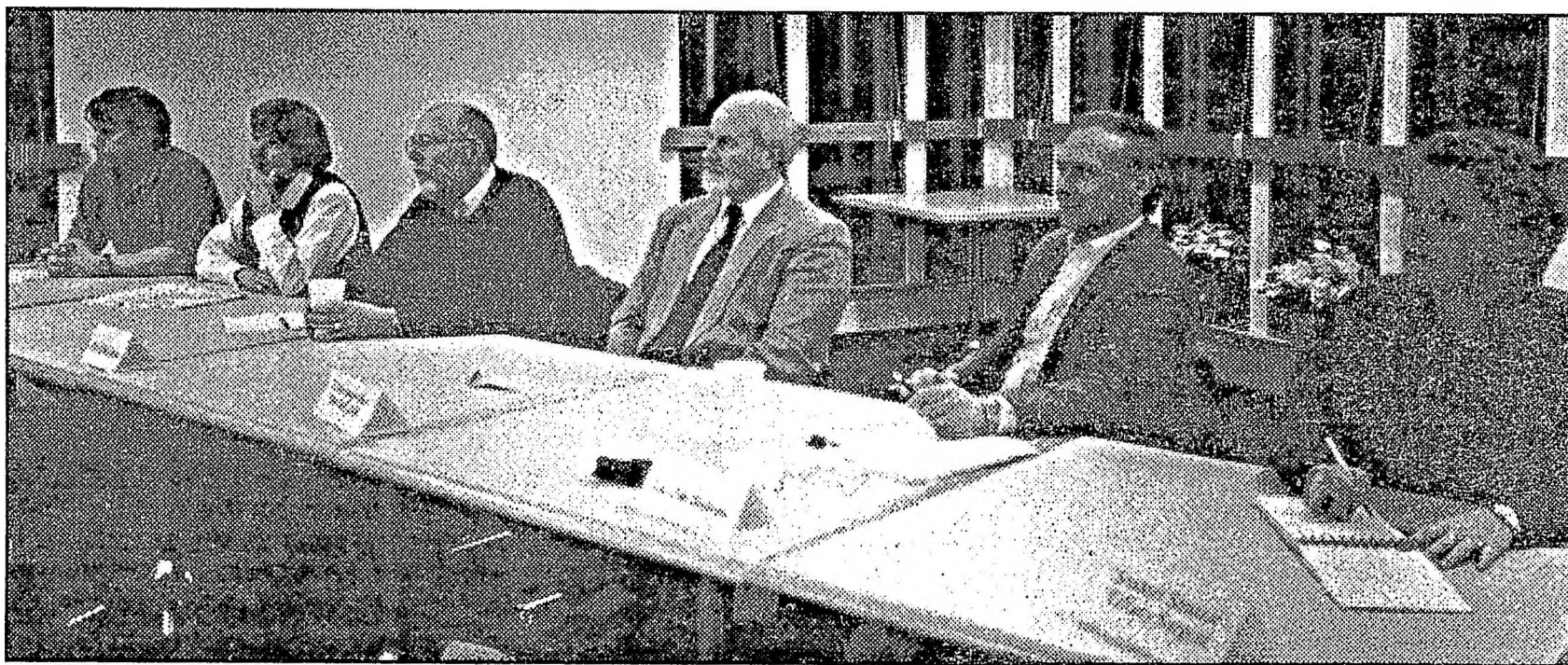


Photo by Sean Damron

The future of the University of Alaska Southeast and its role in the community was the focus of a forum held at the Mourant Building last week. Possibly the first such event that's been held in years, the forum brought together representatives from the university, the city, and the state legislature. They included, as seen from left in the photo, Deputy Mayor John MacKinnon, Juneau Schools Superintendent Mary Rubadeau, Juneau Representative Kim Elton, UAS Chancellor Marshall Lind, Juneau Senator Jim Duncan, and student government representative Tiffany Sargent.

Panelists agreed that UAS afforded a unique opportunity for Juneau residents — whether high school students or working parents — to continuously upgrade their skills and remain competitive in the job market. They also highlighted its economic role in the community: \$10 million in state funds that's used to leverage \$18 million in activities and 200 jobs.

But what direction should UAS go in order to survive? Elton thought "concrete and steel" projects such as student housing would go a long way. "I think the next step is the sports facility," he said. However, Duncan thought it was best to focus on the fisheries, public administration, and tourism programs that best serve the Southeast area. "It's important to develop some real quality core programs."

The forum was sponsored by Alaska Young Democrats, but it was intended as a non-partisan event to raise the profile of UAS and discuss its direction.

From embryos to altar pieces; Professor gets his career sidetracked into art, Alaska



Photo by Sean Damron

Art professor George Parker is like many other people who start college intent on studying a particular subject, and then get diverted into an altogether different field.

By Anita Patterson
Whalesong Reporter

Who would have guessed that George Parker, professor of art at UAS, started out as a biology major before deciding that art was to be his career. Since Parker has been at UAS, he has inspired many students with

his love and appreciation of the arts as well as encouraging them to discover and develop their creative talents.

Parker, who is originally from California, came to Alaska in 1975 to spend the summer with friends. At that time he had been involved in a program in Idaho for four to six year olds called Head Start. "It was a way of giving children a head start on education and growth," said Parker.

He took a part-time job at the State Museum downtown during that summer. Yet he had enjoyed his summer in Alaska so much that he decided to stay. "A job opened up as a curator for the State Museum. I was hired in the fall of 1975 to become a curator." His work there afforded him a greater insight into the indigenous art of Native Alaskans as well as modern art. "I was in charge of contemporary art when I was at the Alaska State Museum. So I got the opportunity to meet many of the artists in Alaska, particularly some of those from northern and western Alaska."

Parker graduated from Idaho State University with an undergraduate degree in art and then went on to complete his masters in fine arts. It may surprise people that Parker hasn't always been so passionate about art. "I didn't take art until I got to college," he said. He originally undertook his undergraduate work in biology before switching to art. "The area of study I was in was embryology and I had to take an art history class for requirements and I liked it. I guess the other side of it was that I didn't know exactly where I was going to be in the biology area," said Parker. "When the option was there to do art, I really quite liked it. I had been going to museums while I was in college and had been looking at things and trying to understand them. So when I took the art history class I became much more involved."

Parker primarily specializes in painting although he teaches drawing, water color and art history classes. He claims to have no favorite artist. "There are a number of them that I like and that changes too. You go through different growth periods," he said. "There are people you like at one period in your life that you replace with other people."

During his time at the university he has taken two sabbaticals, the first in 1989-1990 and the second in 1996-1997,

in which he was able to concentrate on his own work. Last year he traveled mainly in Belgium and France, where he looked at painted altar pieces, that had been painted for the Dukes of Burgundy between 1400-1500. "The ones I was looking at, the Dukes of Burgundy had employed the best artists in the early art of the Renaissance," said Parker. He had chosen to look at these particular pieces for a number of reasons. "Firstly, they're stunning and the other thing that intrigued me about the painted altar pieces was that for most of the year they would be in a closed state," said Parker. "Only on particular feast days they would be opened. Usually they would be paintings of patron saints of the hospital chapel or church. Some dealt with salvation and the last judgement. When they were opened up, some were close to 17 foot large, and had multiple panels that were hinged."

His interest in these altar pieces stems from his art history classes in college. "You really start to find out about them when you first take art history and you are looking at pictures in books and think you'd like to see that. So eventually you go and see it." He referred to the significance and symbolism of the paintings. "These altar pieces were so much a part of the culture fabric of the community at a time when most people were illiterate," said Parker. "They could look at the pictures and reinforce their religious views. Their whole lives centered around the church."

While abroad, he gained access and knowledge to works that could not be found in textbooks and which he had not been familiar with. "Some paintings had some very odd twists to their history that I had not been aware of and that the curator filled me in on," said Parker. "One of the paintings had been taken by the Nazis and was given to Hitler as a birthday present." Through the help of curators he was afforded a more intimate view and history of the paintings.

Although he focused primarily on painted altar pieces, he spent time studying various other paintings and artists, such as Bruegel, Van der Weyden and Van Eyck. "I also went to a

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Editorial

UAA student leadership threatens statewide unity, credibility

University administrators and some legislators cringe when you try to talk to them about House Bill 302. The measure sponsored by Anchorage Representative Con Bunde would dictate a funding schedule that has little to do with campus maintenance and operations, class sizes, labor agreements, research expenses, or the regional cost of living. Instead, it would base state funding of each campus solely on its total student enrollment. The measure is seen as extremely punitive against the University of Alaska Fairbanks and would likely shift funds from that campus to Anchorage.

According to UA figures, there were a total of 31,917 full- and part-time students enrolled across the state in 1996. Just over 18,670, or about 58 percent of students statewide, were registered at University of Alaska Anchorage; over 9,270, or 29 percent, signed up at UAF; and there were about 4,400 students, or 13 percent, at the University of Alaska Southeast's campuses.

Out of over \$167 million in state funds spent by the university system in 1996, UAF's portion was the biggest at \$71 million, or 42 percent. UAA, however, received \$51 million, or about 30 percent; and UAS was handed nearly \$13 million, or just 7 percent of state funds. Another \$215 million in student fees, university receipts, and federal receipts was also divided up among all the campuses.

Last month, the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce approved a resolution highlighting the apparent disparity between the funding of UAA and other campuses. They didn't name Bunde's bill, but it wasn't very difficult to understand their im-

plication. Anchorage, said the resolution, "is home to over sixty percent of Alaska's residents and a similar proportion of University of Alaska students but UAA receives only 35 percent of the state general fund appropriations..."

They asked legislators to consider funding for UAA as a priority, and also asked regents "to achieve equity in its allocation in state funding among the various campuses over a reasonable period of time."

It's hard to ignore such a funding disparity between campuses -- it's worth examining further -- and such action by the Anchorage chamber is not surprising. But what is surprising is a similar move by UAA student government, an apparent about-face that has the potential to dissolve any effective unity among students across the state.

Members of the UA Coalition of Student Leaders, a group of student government members from around the state, converged on Juneau back in February to lobby legislators, the governor, and regents in an effort to forestall further budget cuts and prevent additional tuition increases.

James Stagg, Speaker of the Assembly of the United Students of UAA and ostensibly speaking on their behalf, was even quoted during a press conference at the Capitol. He said that they had seen a lot of regional division as they talked with various legislators that week.

"The Coalition of Student Leaders support the university as a whole," said Stagg. "We don't stand for Anchorage, or Fairbanks, or Mat-Su, or Juneau." He went on to say that they stood united in their support for the university system. "We don't need to direct money from one campus at the expense of others."

Barely a week later, USUAA passed a resolution, co-sponsored by Stagg, that supports Bunde's bill. The measure complains that the current "inequitable allocations are clearly unjust," and are "an overt affront to the sentiments and expectations of UAA students," and "has the further consequence of rendering UAA's general offerings, services, and overall status as acutely inferior to that of at least one other UA system campus."

Heavens, do these guys need a Kleenex? Or, maybe we should chip in for some therapy?

And what happened between the time that Stagg stood up in front of the Capitol press corps and when UAA student government passed their resolution? Or, perhaps the resolution was already in the works when Stagg made his comments?

UAS student leaders now joke about having a knife in their back as they greet their UAA counterparts in Juneau later this month. But it's only a little funny. University of Alaska student leaders across the state still had some measure of credibility when presenting a unified position to those who dictate policy and hold the state's purse strings. But this has been seriously undermined with USUAA's inferiority complex and their head-spinning change in position. It's as if they suddenly realized that the entire UA system is inevitably going to suffer financially again this year. So, they've started clamoring for the only lifeboat in sight. They've decided that it's best to hedge their bets and fall in line behind a hometown legislator in the Majority leadership, hope that his bill makes it all the way to a veto override session, and breathe a sigh of relief as other campuses suffer through another cut this year.

Thanks for your help, USUAA.

Student elections set for Tuesday, Wednesday

Elections for UAS student government get underway next week for four open seats: Senate President, Senate Vice-President, and two student Senators. Each term is for one year starting in July. The election will be preceded by a candidates debate on Monday, April 13 at noon in the Maurant Cafeteria.

On Tuesday, April 14, you can vote at the Maurant Cafe from 9 am to 5 pm, and at the Housing Lodge from noon to 10 pm. On Wednesday, April 15, voting will be allowed at the Maurant Cafe from 9 am to 8 pm, and at the Housing Lodge from noon to 10 pm.

UA Regents return to Juneau next week

The University of Alaska Board of Regents are returning to Juneau for their next full meeting that will include the ongoing search for a replacement for outgoing President Jerome Komisar. Regents will get things underway April 15 at the Baranof Hotel with closed-door executive sessions of the Presidential Evaluation and Search Committees.

The two-day regular meeting, which starts April 16, includes a report on tuition and fees paid by international students, potential approval of a certificate and degree program for Microcomputer Support Specialist, a new salary schedule for student employees, and a discussion on possibly insinuating a uniform course numbering system throughout the state. Other items to be covered include the potential sale of revenue bonds for a UAF Coal Water project that will sold be in conjunction with \$1.7 million worth of bonds for the planning and design for the university's portion of the NOAA/NMFS consolidated research facility at Juneau's Lena Point.

Artists: design the next holiday card

Entries are now being accepted for this year's Chancellor's Holiday Card Contest that's open to any UAS student. Submitted entries must reflect a holiday spirit with a Southeast Alaska theme, and they can be done in any medium such as drawing, painting, or photography. Three dimensional entries should be submitted in slide form.

They should postmarked or hand-delivered at the Chancellor's Office by April 24. The winning artist will get \$150 and 25 copies of the produced card.

UAS staffer highlighted at art show

A member of UAS faculty was picked as the winner of the Juror's Choice award in the Artabon '98 show. Dianne Anderson, adjunct instructor and teacher's assistant in art, won with her piece called "Alaska, by the seat of your pants," a large 40 inch by 50 inch zinc etching collage constructed from handmade paper created from old blue jeans. The paper was made by cutting up the jeans and mixing the pieces in a blender with cotton pulp. Several existing etchings of Alaskan wildlife, vegetation, and landscapes were then cut apart and then rearranged into a single three-dimensional collage.

Other UAS entries that picked up a Juror's Merit award include "Sockeye Run," a hand-made paper sculpture constructed by alum Karen Benson. She used actual fish to make the original forms that were then filled with paper pulp and later painted.

The guest juror for Artabon '98 was Jeri Nichols Quinn of California who has garnered awards for her Western oil landscapes. Part of the proceeds from the sale of art during the exhibition go to the Juneau Audubon Society which promotes habitat projects and environmental education.

Artabon '98 runs through April 11 at the Decker Gallery downtown.

Center aids Native students

By Anita Patterson
Whalesong Reporter

The Native and Rural Center offers opportunities and support to students both Native and non-Native, whether you are seeking academic advice or just want to stop in and socialize. It offers Native students the chance to congregate and discuss cultural and common interests as well as inviting non-Native students to learn and share in a new culture.

In her five years as a UAS academic advisor and coordinator of Native and Rural Student Programs, Pattie Adkisson has provided academic assistance and support to many students. She takes special interest in Native students who have come to UAS. "Alaskan Native and American Indian students often face special challenges because they are first generation college students," said Adkisson. "American Indians are the smallest minority listed when it comes to minorities, yet have a special relationship with the government because of past treaties and because of historical impacts."

Adkisson can relate to Alaskan Native students on a personal level due to her own Native heritage. Her mother is Aleut and she grew up in Alaska. She recognizes that higher education often is a tremendous challenge for Native students. "My educational background represents the most common Alaskan Native experience. My family had absolutely no college graduates until I came along." Adkisson graduated from the Lewis and Clark State College, Idaho, in 1985 with a B.A. in Education.

It was her experiences in the Native community that led Adkisson into the education field. "In order to get scholarship money, we had to describe how we would contribute to the Native community," said Adkisson. "Education made such a difference in my life that I wanted to be a positive influence on other young Alaskan Natives who would use education to improve their lives, and I want to work in a field where I can be of help to them."

She has been involved with Native American issues for many years. "At college in Idaho there was an inactive Native American program that my girlfriend and I reactivated the first semester we were there," said Adkisson. "It's just something I've done from my college days on. Even before that, when I worked at a museum, I became really inter-

ested in Alaskan Native History. From this incredibly rich past, how did we get to where we are today?" She is currently a member of the Alaskan Native Sisterhood which meets twice monthly and runs parallel with the Alaskan Native Brotherhood. "We usually have similar kinds of projects. Our primary focus has been to make our whole way of life better as a group in social, health and education areas."

Clubs encourage Natives

In order to facilitate the integration of Native students into university education and encourage them to further their education, there have been clubs and organizations established at UAS. Last fall, a chapter of the American Indian Science & Engineering Society was formed at the Juneau campus. Although there had previously been interest by students in starting up an AISES chapter, it was Collauna Dick, a science student at UAS, who formed the club. Dick, who transferred to the Juneau campus from Colorado where she had previously been a member of their AISES chapter, considered it to be a great opportunity for students. Dick, along with her sister Cholla Dick, are currently the president and the vice president of the club. Adkisson is their club advisor.

AISES is a growing nationwide organization, originally founded in 1977. It has over 3,500 members in various categories and regions, which include science and engineering professionals, college and pre-college students and other supporters. Membership is open to everyone who wishes to participate in the AISES family of programs. The organization was created by American Indian scientists, engineers and educators as a means to encourage and assist Native students to further their education by providing the financial, academic and cultural support necessary to do so. They chose to focus on Native Americans as they were concerned at the high drop out rates of Native students in comparison to other ethnic groups in the United States.

AISES was originally designed specifically to aid engineering and science students, "probably because their corporate sponsorship comes largely from fields that have underrepresentation of minorities," said Adkisson. "So for instance, in a state where they drill wells



Photo by Sean Damron

Advisor and coordinator of Native and Rural Student Programs, Pattie Adkisson, left, and Elaine Miller chat about club activities outside during a recent break in the weather.

and do oil exploration on Native lands, but don't employ Native people, it's a kind of black eye for corporations, so what they look for is how they can do development in a socially responsible way."

Adkisson considers economics to be a determining factor as to why many corporations choose to create special programs to assist in the development of minorities. "Encouraging economic freedom allows people to make more choices and to be part of a decision-making process," said Adkisson.

Not an exclusive club

AISES has since stretched its perimeters to include students going into education, business and other science fields. There is also a professional chapter that enables college graduates to continue their association with AISES. "You don't have to be in sciences but you do have to be a student in order to be a student member," said Adkisson. "You don't necessarily have to be an Alaskan Native or American Indian to join AISES either. None of the clubs on campus would segregate by race. It's not meant to be exclusive. It's meant to be inclusive, to include people who want to understand what we're working on."

AISES offers a wide range of benefits for students, such as internships, summer programs and scholarships and national conventions. "This spring there is a leadership conference in Denver. It's a chance for Native Americans to meet, get training and learn about a variety of opportunities and resources," said Adkisson. "However, in order to qualify for the scholarship program, AISES does require that students are either Alaskan Native or American Indian."

Adkisson spoke of the aims of the club; "When we first started the club, the main idea was to tap into the organizations that exist so that we have a web of support. It would be good to have a club to connect to great biology and education programs, summer internships, scholarships and career development programs."

Opportunities Offered

Adkisson clearly considers AISES to provide Native students with important and rewarding opportunities. Vickie Soboleff, an accounting student at UAS who won a scholarship through AISES, is just one student who has benefited from the organization. "She got \$1000 from the AT Anderson scholarship program," said Adkisson. "The criteria is so high, this student would not have gotten this money if she wasn't a hard worker. She was earning close to a 4.0 grade average in accounting, so they took notice of her when she turned in the application."

The club is very much open to everyone

and Adkisson encourages students of all ethnic backgrounds to become involved. "We've had a student join AISES who's not Native American or American for that matter," she said. "She was just interested in knowing what we do and how she could get to know us."

AISES meets twice monthly to discuss various opportunities, fund raising and forthcoming events. Last fall the club hosted a homecoming salmon dinner at DIPAC, where ANS Camp #2 roasted the salmon, college students and community members came for dinner and visiting. "It was just a great event for campus awareness," said Adkisson. Other meetings include discussions and sharing videos to help widen the doors of understanding.

The club has many plans for the future. "We haven't spent as much time doing the kinds of things that we'd like to do. We've talked about doing more to raise social consciousness by sponsoring speakers forums," said Adkisson. "The main problem the club faces is scheduling a time when everyone can meet. It's about impossible to schedule meetings when everybody can be there. We don't have the luxury of UAF where they dedicate two one-hour slots per week when there are no classes scheduled. There must be a way to do that but we haven't found it."

The club is currently working on a number of projects that it would like to see realized. "Being a new club it would be nice to get some of these students out to national leadership conferences and back to share some of what they gained in terms of leadership and knowledge," said Adkisson. "It does make a difference and helps to develop a person so much more in terms of how an organization can function as well as awaken awareness and involvement." Adkisson also referred to a fund-raising project that they are hoping to get under way soon, a campus phone card, so that students have access to cheaper telephone rates as well as raising money for the club from a percentage of the sales.

She commented on the support the club has received from UAS. "Administration is happy to see students form clubs that will help them get a handle on what's important to them at college," she said. "The university has supported us by encouraging me to use some of my time to meet with students and put together projects that enhance campus diversity, and by being supportive of students ideas whenever possible."

She praised the student government for their support of clubs. "It is helpful that the student government wants to maintain connection with the Native student club and en-

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Federal student aid on the rise if Senate committee bill approved

By Christine Tatum
College Press Service

The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee last week approved a bill that would extend the Higher Education Act another five years.

The bill, which is expected to go to the full Senate later this month, would increase the amount spent on Pell Grants and would decrease the costs of education loans to students. But its passage is not guaranteed because the Clinton Administration disagrees with some of the bill's provisions, which it says are too generous to bankers.

The maximum Pell Grant for the 1998-99 school year is set at \$3,000, but the bill proposes that that amount be increased to \$5,000 in time for the 1999-2000 academic year, and increased by an additional \$200 each of the following four years.

Among the bill's other provisions:

- * The suspension of student-aid for people convicted of drug offenses.

- * Wider eligibility standards for Pell Grants. The proposed legislation would net more students who are financially independent of their parents and more dependent students who work in addition to going to college. The bill would increase from \$3,000 to \$4,250 the amount of money independent students could earn and still qualify for a grant. The bill also would increase from \$1,750 to \$2,200 the amount of earnings a dependent student could exclude from statements about his or her family's need.

- * A limit on the amount of time students can receive aid. Full-time students would lose their grants if they remained

in school for more than six years.

- * The forgiveness of student-loan debt up to \$10,000 for graduates who teach for three years in a school with a large representation of low-income families.

- * Extend the amount of time lenders must give students who are more than \$30,000 in debt to repay their loans. Currently, students have 10 years. The bill proposes they get 25 years instead.

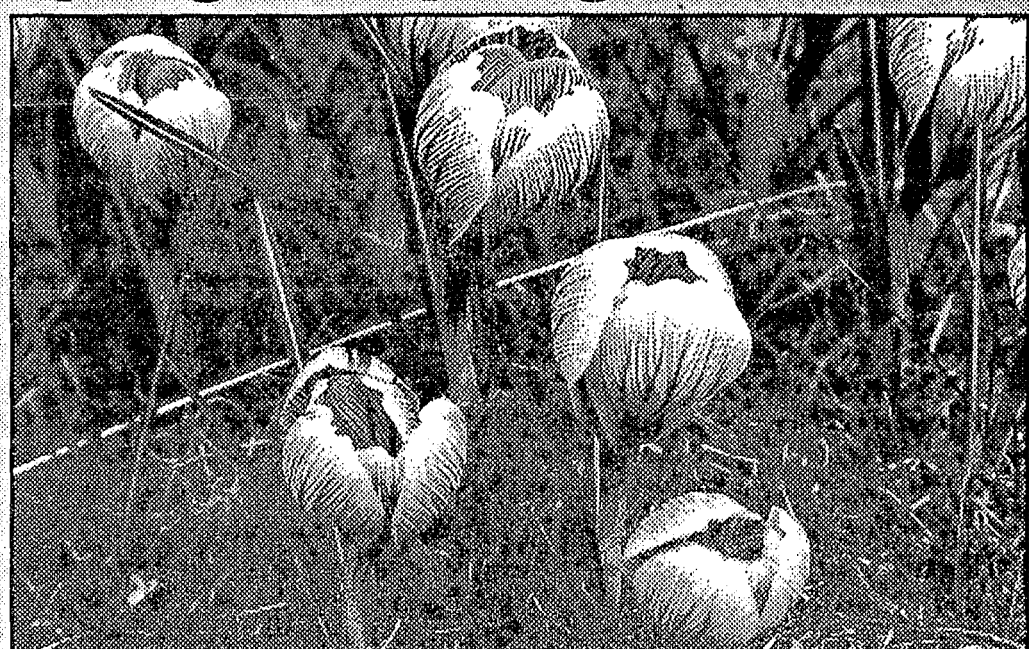
- * Mandate that colleges and universities disclose to the public more detailed financial information so that students and their parents can make more informed choices. Colleges failing to provide such information would be fined up to \$25,000 for each offense.

- * The authorization of \$10 million in grants for colleges needing to improve their facilities to better meet the needs of disabled students.

Much of last week's discussion focused on another of the bill's provisions, which would lower the interest rates students would have to pay on their loans. Republicans and Democrats agree that the rates should be cut, but they don't see eye-to-eye on how to lower them.

Republicans have proposed to offset the lower interest rates by increasing the amount of in subsidies the government pays lenders to help cover their costs. But Democrats have complained that the tactic would benefit banks at the expense of taxpayers, who would have to shell out more money to pay the higher subsidies.

Spring has sprung



Colder weather is apparently six months away since these purple crocuses are well on their way to blooming in the grass outside the Chancellor's office.

Foreign study scholarships available

The Glacier Valley Rotary Club is offering over \$75,000 in scholarships for Alaskan and Yukon students who want to experience another culture as part of their education.

Two scholarships valued at \$23,000 each will be award for a year of study abroad. Airfare, tuitions and fees, and room and board would be covered for a year of study starting after July of 1999. Selected countries must be those where Rotary Clubs already exist, and scholarship winners are expected to act as ambassadors of goodwill to the people of the host country. Applicants must have already completed two years of college study and two years of working in a recognized vocation.

Three additional scholarships of up to \$10,000 each will also be awarded for three months of study abroad at an institute designated by Rotary International. Applicants should already have demonstrated some proficiency in the language of the host country, and should already have completed at least one year of study.

Interested students should contact Donald Smith at 586-6000 or 364-3562 for more information or an application. The deadline is May 15. Rotarians and their families are not eligible.

Rotary says their Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship program is the world's largest privately-sponsored international scholarship program with over \$215 million awarded to 24,000 students since 1947.

Poor without hope of getting 'Hope Scholarships': Report says the college scholarships only benefit middle class

By Michael Logan
Columbia University Campus Correspondent

Becky Stephens is the kind of student who could benefit from the HOPE Scholarship, a new federal \$1,500 tax credit. The 28-year-old is raising three children while working toward a degree in psychology and special education at Millersville University in Pennsylvania.

Although she receives \$2,700 in grant aid and \$4,500 in student loans, it isn't enough for Stephens to attend classes while her husband, Danny, supports a family of five on an \$18,740 income. It has taken Stephens four years to complete half of her degree requirements. Because of tight finances, she has dropped out on three occasions and faces dropping out a fourth time.

"It's like juggling live hand grenades," Stephens said.

Despite her predicament, Stephens doesn't qualify to receive a single dollar of the \$32 billion the HOPE Scholarship and its companion, the Lifetime Learning Credit, will hand out over the next five years. Because such financial assistance is based on the amount of taxes paid, the bulk of the aid goes to families earning between \$40,000 and \$80,000 each year, according to a report released by the Brookings Institution.

Few in the higher education community can tell with certainty the future of the national financial aid system, but both sides generally agree that the HOPE and Lifetime Learning Credit will not help low-income students like Stephens.

"It is true that most of the benefits would go to second and third-income parties (i.e. 'middle class')," said Dr. David Longanecker, assistant secretary for postsecondary education at the U.S. Education Department. "We don't apologize for that."

Critics of tax-based ways of delivering aid fear it will compete with need-based systems of funding. They also argue that with the government backing such credits, colleges may be tempted to raise their prices.

The Clinton Administration disputes such claims, insisting that low-income students are already well served by existing financial aid programs. Middle-class families, the Clinton camp says, are the most neglected group when it comes to tuition assistance.

To curry favor with the middle class during his 1996 reelection campaign, President Clinton billed the HOPE Scholarship as a way to make two years of college "as universal as high school is today." He and Congress followed up with the passage of the 1997 Taxpayer Relief Act and the Lifetime Learning Credit. The act allows first and second-year students to collect a tax credit for up to \$1,500. The credit - which provides assistance for third- and fourth-year, graduate, and non-traditional students - is worth up to \$1,000 for tuition and fees paid after June 30. That figure is expected to climb to \$2,000 by 2003.

As Erica Adelsheimer, legislative director of the United States Student Association, sees it, the tax breaks in their current form are inequitable.

"We feel that if you're giving a \$1,500 benefit it should also go to low-income students," she said.

But low-income students have plenty of help in the form of Pell grants to get them through a college's gates, Longanecker said. The problem, he said internal Education Department studies have revealed, is that many don't know they qualify for such aid. Education officials are hoping that as students learn they aren't eligible for HOPE scholarships, someone will steer them toward applying for Pell grants and other forms of need-based aid instead.

Though Pell Grant funding for fiscal year 1998 increased 24 percent to about \$7.4 billion, the grant's value has actually dropped 40 percent in inflation-adjusted terms since 1975. Higher-income students, however, are expected to receive an additional \$2.08 billion in new aid this fiscal year. By fiscal 1999, tuition tax credits will claim \$6.5 billion in federal revenue, a figure climb-

ing to \$7.4 billion by 2000.

Critics of tax-based aid fear it will begin to outpace need-based funding. Last year, trustees of The College Board said as much when discussions of HOPE drifted through congressional committees. They declared that tuition-tax credits should "not be allowed to substitute or reduce funding for need-based aid."

Given the Clinton Administration's current education budget proposal, there is evidence to indicate the trustees' apprehensions were not unwarranted. For 1999, the Administration has proposed increasing by \$100 the maximum Pell Grant award and overall funding by \$249 million. That represents 3.4 percent growth over the prior year - barely enough to keep up with inflation. In fact, it lags behind the average rise in college prices, which increased 5 percent last year.

Another long-time objection to tuition tax credits is that they may tempt schools, especially low-cost institutions, to raise tuition prices to capture more federal aid.

Take, for example, the case of Gretchen Lancero, a 23-year-old second-year student at Yuba Community College in Linda, Calif., who is working toward a degree in dental hygiene. Lancero and her husband, Jeff, earn \$32,000 annually. Lancero pays \$13 per credit hour in California's community college system - a rate among the lowest in the nation. Still, she qualifies for a \$312-a-year HOPE Scholarship. Lancero could collect even more if California charged a higher rate for its community college tuition, thereby passing to the federal government a greater share of the cost to educate her.

Longanecker insists that state legislatures are not likely to risk political popularity by raising tuitions, and that private institutions subject to market pressures would find it difficult to raise prices without chasing

Continued on page 7

UAS students explore underwater wonders in new club

By Amber Lee
Whalesong Reporter

Imagine yourself floating through the world of brightly colored fish and ocean creatures. It may sound like an exotic Hawaiian vacation, but it's actually how members of the Bubble Club, a community scuba diving group, describe their monthly dives right here in Juneau.

The Bubble Club, which is sponsored by Channel Dive Center, has activities for scuba divers and non-scuba divers alike. Members can participate in organized dives, or one of the many training sessions held monthly by the club. "We try to organize one dive and one training or lab a month," said Su Lachelt, manager of the Channel Dive Center.

Some of the many activities available are underwater photography, mapping dive sites, dive computer classes and critter identification. One exciting project that the club is currently working on is an underwater marine park. According to Dr. Dennis Russell, UAS marine biology professor and member of the Bubble Club, an underwater park is; "...a place designated for artificial reef building to attract fish."

Underwater parks have been flourishing in Washington, California, Florida and Texas, and the Bubble Club would like to introduce this underwater attraction to Juneau. "Critters don't grow over sand very well," says Russell. The introduction of something like a sunken barge very quickly turns into an underwater habitat for many types of marine life. "It's safe and clean and very interesting," says Russell. With the large group of experts who are among the members of the Bubble Club, the underwater park seems to be within their grasp. "We have members from the Coast Guard, EPA and the Corps of Engineers who would all help with the project," says Russell.

Not only do these experts help with the major undertakings of the Bubble Club, they also act as invaluable mentors to the UAS students who have joined the club. Students cannot only apply their classroom knowledge in hands-on experience situations, but they can learn from the expertise of community members who are actually working in fields they are studying about. "Our membership includes EMT's, members of the fire department, government agencies, Fish and Game and NOAA. Students are learning from people who are on the job, rather than just a club full of students," says Russell.

Of the 25 members, there are currently eight UAS students in the Bubble club. UAS student body president Rosie Gilbert joined the club after watching an intriguing presentation done by Don Lachelt, owner of the Channel Dive Center. Gilbert was surprised by all of the creatures hiding below the surface of the ocean water in Juneau. "It's just awesome," says Gilbert. "You'd never guess what kind of exotic creatures are down there. It feels like Hawaii except for the temperature."

Gilbert is quick to add that between your woolly bear, a wool suit worn under your dry suit, and the insulating layer of air between the two, you stay relatively warm. "Only your hands, feet and face contact water. It's a real shocker at first, but you get used to it really quick," she said.

There are other perks that members receive aside from the expert training offered by the club. Not many individual divers would be able to afford the cost of chartering a Catamaran for offshore dives on sunken ships. The club offers members the opportunity to do things as groups that would be too expensive for most people to do individually.

The club is also involved with trips to other places. There are plans to visit a sea turtle hatchery in Honduras in the near future. Other future visits to Guam and Hawaii are tentatively planned.

One of the most important benefits of the club is safety. "We tell them where the dangerous spots are," says Dr. Russell. "Everybody has to sign a sheet when they go out so we know who's in the water." Members are also paired by experience, so it's an excellent way for beginning divers to learn more about diving from someone with experience.

All divers must have scuba certification, which is offered regularly through the Channel Dive Center and costs around \$305. You must also have your own equipment or rent equipment for around \$65 dollars a weekend.

With all of the different activities offered by the Bubble Club, anyone can find an activity that they could participate in and enjoy. Non-divers can benefit from the many training sessions and labs, examine the many strange

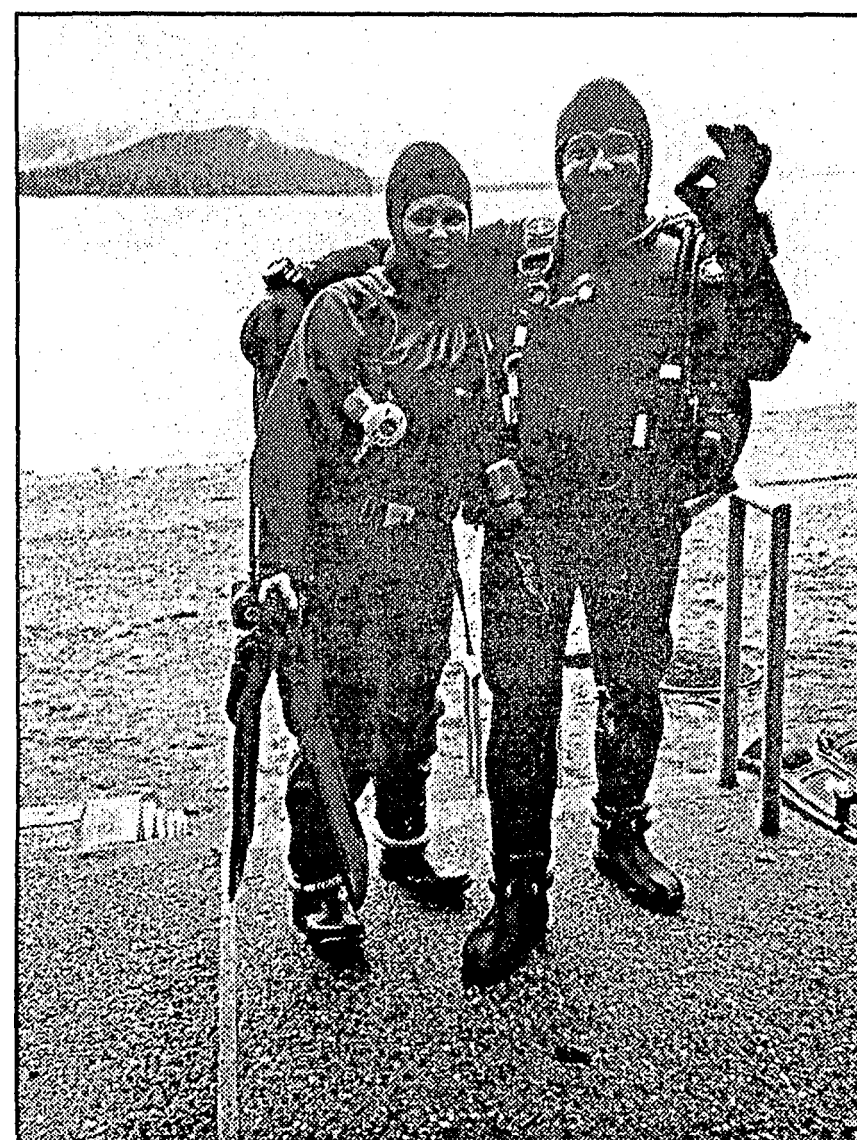


Photo courtesy of Dave Lachelt
Dawn Murphy and Dave Lachelt show their approval of a recent dive in Southeast waters.

creatures that the divers dredge from the bottom of the ocean and take part in the beach barbecues held during the monthly dives. Experienced divers can meet people who share common interests, and beginning divers can learn from the more experienced divers in the group. To find out more about the Bubble Club, call Su Lachelt at the Channel Dive Center at 790-4665.

New science lab offers updated and convenient place for student learning

By Amber Lee
Whalesong Reporter

Because of the growing science programs at UAS and the introduction of the new environmental science degree, a new science lab was designed and built in the lower level of the Hendrickson Building. Other plans for building the lab have been in motion for some time, but the lab just recently gotten up and running in January.

Cathy Connor, assistant professor of geology and Don Greenberg, professor of math and physics, spearheaded plans to design and build the new science lab. As the programs grew, the need for space and updated technology grew as well, and this became very apparent to the faculty.

Greenberg explained that the lack of space caused problems with the efficiency of his labs. "I taught two physics classes, and had to hold five lab sessions. This was an inefficient use of my time," said Greenberg who formerly held his labs in the Anderson building which has been dedicated primarily to the ever-growing biology program.

The need for new equipment was also very apparent as the university added the environmental science program which is often very dependent upon technology.

"We needed a lab with more up-to-date computers," said Connor. "We need PC's instead of Mac's to implement some of the software we wanted to use. We needed faster Pentium chips."

The plan to introduce a new science lab has evolved over time due to funding and architectural issues. "A number of

years ago," said Greenberg, "we designed a new lab which would be a new wing on the library. After funding never came through, we had to come up with something else."

Some science labs were held in HB 204, which had also been used to teach all types of classes. Because of some of the needs of the science lab classes, such as a sink with running water, there were problems with keeping the lab on the second level. According to Connor; "It eventually came down to dictation by the physical plant and architects." They believed that it would be much easier to install the equipment needed on the lower level of the building.

Another problem with using the second level was the lack of support that it would offer for a storage room. According to Greenberg, the upper level would need stronger supports to meet the codes required for a storage room.

After the retirement of many members of the music department who had previously had offices on the lower level of the Hendrickson building, the science department saw their opportunity to use this space for their new lab. Because the structure was already in place, the money which had been funded by a grant through the UAS president's committee could be used for computers and lab equipment.

The new lab holds around 16 students at a time and that would have two students to a computer, so space is still limited. But according to Connor; "It's serving the purposes that we'd hoped it would."

The physics labs were moved to the

Hendrickson building, so that the Anderson building could be dedicated entirely to the biology program, and also labs for environmental science and geology are held there.

Carl Byers, visiting assisting professor of math, manages the lab and teaches a remote sensing class in the lab. Remote sensing is the use of satellite imaging and aerial photography to study the planet. It's very heavily based in technology. The class uses an ESRI Company Geographical Information type software that takes map and satellite images and adds information to the map, like the population, tree types, animals or anything that a person would like to add. "Special training sessions are available for anyone interested," says Connor. "This is an asset to the community and the university."

The laboratory is also a smart classroom. "The instructor's computer, microscopes and VCR are all linked to a projector," says Byers. This allows for everyone to see what is being viewed under a microscope. The image is projected onto a large screen on the wall.

"The only medium that is missing is sound," says Connor, who is currently working out a solution to incorporate sound into the classroom. "It would also be nice to be plugged into the NASA channel," she adds.



The names behind the buildings at UAS:

Waino Hendrickson: A man of the people

By Eileen Wagner
Whalesong Reporter

"There just ought to be a lot more people like him," said a long-time neighbor of Waino Hendrickson. Don Burford lived a block away from the Hendrickson house on 'C' St. and remembers him as "very understated, very decent, never very presumptuous. He gave a lot more than he took."

Waino Hendrickson's life parallels a good portion of the last hundred years of Juneau's history. Born here in 1896, he was the second child of Finnish immigrants. His father was a miner at the AJ Mine, and his mother ran a 20-room boarding house for miners. The Rocklin House, as it was called, stood where the Baranof Hotel now stands.

In 1916, Waino (or Vaino, as it was pronounced) graduated from Juneau High School and went to work at the mine. An accident caused him to lose partial sight in one eye. In 1918 he enlisted in the army, and was on his way to France when the Armistice was signed. Upon his return to Juneau, he went to work at the City Dock as assistant wharfinger, or manager.

In 1924, he married Marion Kingsnorth Jones, a nurse from Victoria, B.C. who worked at St. Ann's Hospital. A few years later, he began to work for Alaska Laundry. He became part owner of the business and continued there for 20 years.

Later in his life, Hendrickson was quoted as saying that delivering laundry and making collections taught him a lot: "You'd be surprised how much you learn about people when you have to keep after them on back due accounts."

Robert Thibodeau thinks the job was probably responsible for his becoming mayor. Hendrickson was encouraged to run for mayor in 1946. "He had contact with a lot of different people," Thibodeau said. "He never offended anyone. He was one to smooth things over and avoid confrontation." Former councilman and mayor Wayne Johnson said simply, "People wanted him to run because he was a good man." He served as mayor until 1953.

Next-door neighbor Mike Grummett remembers Hendrickson driving him and his brother to church on Sunday in the back of the delivery van. When Grummett visited Hendrickson in the city council chambers, he remembers being impressed that mild-mannered Waino Hendrickson who drove him to church

also held the highest office in town and had such a big table to work at.

Larry Parker said that Hendrickson's most important work as mayor was getting the city power to levy and use sales tax. There was no sales tax prior to this, and in the days before oil money, cities had virtually no way to raise funds.

Parker, who continues to this day as the power behind the Fourth of July fireworks display, credits Hendrickson with getting the Fourth started as the big celebration that it is in Juneau. "Waino was in the American Legion. He was behind it all - the parades, the fireworks - he knew where to go to get the money for the Fourth of July."

Apparently, Waino also knew how to make arrangements for the weather during the Fourth. "When he was running for mayor of Juneau, he promised there would always be good weather for the parade," said David Forrest, a grandson of Waino. "Of course, if you live in Juneau, you know there's usually good weather some time during the day. Every year, if it's sunny on parade day, we thank Waino for keeping his promise."

Wayne Johnson recalled that Hendrickson got a sales tax passed to pave the streets, and Juneau thus became the first city in Alaska that was fully paved.

Hendrickson also served in the Territorial House of Representatives from 1948 to 1953. In 1953, he was named by President Eisenhower to be Secretary of State under Territorial Governor Frank Heintzleman, and served in this position until statehood. During this time, he served as Acting Governor twice.

He was appointed first chairman of the Interior Department's Alaska Field Committee, and then director of the Juneau office of the Bureau of Land Management. Mike Grummett remembers that the lights in Hendrickson's house were apt to be on late at night or early in the morning as he cared for his wife who was ill with cancer. She died in 1962, and after his retirement in 1965, Hendrickson moved to Anchorage to live with his daughter.

He continued to serve on several statewide committees for a few years until his eyesight became worse. He died in 1983, and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery.

The plaque on the side of the building named in his honor reads as follows: "This building is named in honor of Waino Hendrickson, a true Alaska pioneer whose lifetime of service to the community and state serves as a model of honesty and dedication."

Degrees and certificates awarded to UAS Students

Graduation and the completion of college coursework is normally associated with the end of the spring semester and the arrival of summer. But more than 30 students earned degrees or certificates from UAS at the end of last semester, according to registrar Eileen Franson. Students earned two graduate degrees, 20 baccalaureate degrees, nine Associate of Arts degrees, one Associate of Applied Science degree, and one certificate. Two-thirds of those completing degree requirements are from Juneau. All fall graduates will be eligible to take part in commencement ceremonies that are scheduled for May 8th at Centennial Hall.

Those completing requirements, their degrees, and their hometown follow:

Master of Education, Educational Leadership:
Sean Dusek of Soldotna

Master of Education, Educational Technology:
Linda Eileen Truitt, Ketchikan

Bachelor of Science, Marine Biology:
Jacob Guise Musslewhite, Auke Bay

Bachelor of Science, General Biology:
Bruce Eric Wanstall, Juneau

Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Social Science:
Sonja DeAnn Cary, Juneau
Amelia Rose Jenkins, Petersburg
Russell Allan Nesje, Juneau

Bachelor of Liberal Arts, General Studies:
Joshua Seth Adams, Juneau
Timothy James Betz, Juneau
Heather Lynne Fial, Juneau
Nicchia Paige Leamer, Juneau

Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Communications:
Hattie Rebecca Penny, Sitka
Brooke Emily Rohweder, Juneau

Bachelor of Liberal Arts:
Nicole Ann von Gaza, Crescent City, CA

Bachelor of Elementary Education:
Valerie Brooks, Ketchikan
Michael John Hamann, Shorewood, WI
Jennifer Jill Jorgenson-Geise, Juneau
Christopher Jordan Tolvo, Juneau

Bachelor of Business Administration, Management:
Robert D. Sheldon, Delta Junction
Trevor Harold Valentine, Seattle
James Melvin Wileman, Sitka

Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting:
Chad R. McGraw, Sitka

Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration:
Anita Christina Haube, Juneau

Associate of Arts:
Stacie Lynn Baxter, Douglas
Rhonda J. Bedard, Juneau
Heather K. Lewis-Brakes, Juneau
Josere M. Carrillo, Juneau
Russell W. Carson, Juneau
Bobbi J. Epperly, Juneau
Diane L. Jones, Juneau
Sean Stimpfle, Juneau
Kevin Matthew Virden, Juneau

Accounting Technician Certificate:
Irene T. Carbillon, Juneau

Don't drink the wine

By Amber Lee
Whalesong Reporter

Abby and Martha Brewster are two sweet, grandmotherly ladies, who go out of their way to extend generosity to anyone they come in contact with. Their most recent acts of charity, ending the lonely, miserable lives of old widowed men, seems to have taken generosity one step too far. In the Juneau-Douglas Little Theatre's production of "Arsenic and Old Lace" the well-intentioned but extremely crazy Brewster's kept the audience roaring with laughter.

Written by Joseph Kesselring in 1941, "Arsenic and Old Lace" first opened in New York, with much skepticism from the producers as to whether or not the play would be a hit. To their surprise this dark comedy was immensely successful and has continued to entertain audiences for the last 57 years.

Pat Denny and Kay Smith were the highlight of the play as the lovely, but misguided Brewster sisters. Their sheer innocence made their mercy murders even more hilarious as they lured the lonely old men who came to their home as lodgers into the parlor for some poisoned elderberry wine. Delighted with each new man that they "help", the Brewster sisters feel they are doing a charitable service to the community in helping these men leave their lonely lives behind and attain peace.

Teddy Brewster, played by Lori Roland, is another delusional member of the Brewster family, who believes that she is actually Teddy Roosevelt. She is a great help to the sisters in disposing of the evidence. The unfortunate men, who Teddy believes are yellow fever victims, are buried in the Panama Canal which she has under construction in the basement.

Everything went smoothly for the sisters until their nephew Mortimer, a harsh theater critic, stumbles upon a body that had not yet received a proper burial. Appalled and confused, Mortimer is on the verge of a nervous breakdown, and frantically tries to devise a plan that will keep his innocent aunts from being carted off to jail. Swept up in the tornado of Brewster insanity, Mortimer himself fears that he is on the edge, and warns his new fiancé Elaine, played by Carina Donkersloot, that it is his destiny to become a crazed maniac.

With Teddy digging the Panama Canal, his aunts offing men and a heartbroken and confused fiancé who is vying for his attention, there seems to be nothing more that could happen to Mortimer, but his day continues to worsen as his long-lost homicidal brother decides to make a social call.

Jonathan Brewster, played by Patrick Wright, is the only Brewster who is intentionally nasty. Chased out of the house years ago, Jonathan returns with his accomplice in crime and plastic surgeon Dr. Herman Einstein, played by Brennan Halterman. Intimidating the two old sisters into letting him stay the night, Jonathan reeks havoc upon the already maniacal household, and adds to the worsening problems that Mortimer is trying to get under control.

Others cast in the play were Tim Kelly, who played Reverend Dr. Harper, Mr. Gibbs, Lt. Rooney and Mr. Witherspoon. Dusk Bigelow played Officer Brophy and Mr. Hoskins, one of the unlucky bachelor's that the sisters served their famous elderberry wine. Josh Clark played Mr. Spenalzo, a victim of Jonathan's anger and unwanted addition to the Brewster's basement.

Directed by Debora Stovern, the production will run through April 11. The show is dedicated to the memory of Marty Clements, who was a regular on the Juneau stage until he passed away recently due to an unfortunate accident. Many of the actors in "Arsenic and Old Lace" were so inspired by the life of Marty Clements that it drew them to also join the theater.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" will take you back to a wholesome virtuous time when members of the community went out of their way to lend a helping hand. Be it a pot of soup to the lady down the street with the flu, or a poisonous glass of wine to a sad, lonely old man.

Friday, April 10th

Adult Golden Egg Hunt at 4:30 pm at the Maurant Building.
UAS Student Government Candidate Meeting at 5:30 in the Maurant Cafeteria.

Saturday, April 11th

Annual UAS Easter Egg Hunt in the Maurant Courtyard at noon. This one is for children 10 & under of UAS students, faculty, and staff.
Docent Training Lecture Series features historian Dee Longenbaugh on Russian-America, museum curator Ken DeRoux, and Indian Studies instructor Nancy Douglas. The series runs Saturday morning from 9 am to noon at Alaska State Museum.

Monday, April 13th

UAS Student Government Election Debate in the Maurant Building at noon.

Tuesday, April 14th

Women's Health Promotion Activities at 7 pm in the Maurant Building's Lake Room.
UAS Student Government Elections with polling places at the Maurant Building from 9 am to 5 pm, and at the Housing Lodge from noon to 10 pm.

Wednesday, April 15th

Election Ice Cream Social at the Maurant Building at 2pm.
UAS Student Government Elections with polling places at the Maurant Building from 9 am to 8 pm, and at the Housing Lodge from noon to 10 pm.

Friday, April 17th

Fun Facts Faculty Friday (FFFF) in the Maurant Building at noon.

Saturday, April 18th

Kayak Roll Class at the Augustus Brown Pool at 8:15 pm. A \$10 registration fee is required at sign-up at the Student Activities Office. The class is limited to 10 people.

Sunday, April 19th

Family Film Series featuring *Singin' in the Rain* at JDHS at 2pm.
Free UAS/Family Swim at the Pool from 6:30pm to 8pm.
Alumni vs. Students Volleyball tournament at the Mendenhall River School at 5 pm.

Wednesday, April 22nd

JAHG/UAS Film Series at JDHS at 7pm. Admission is \$3 for UAS students.
Cafe Maurant Series, 7pm.

Saturday, April 25th

UAS Student Government Fundraising Car Wash with time and place to be announced.
Distant Time in Alaska, a presentation by Karen Iwamoto, Forest Service archaeologist, as part of the Docent Training Lecture Series that runs Saturday morning from 9 am to noon at Alaska State Museum. Harold Jacobs, a repatriation specialist for Tlingit-Haida Central Council will focus on cultural property.

Sunday, April 26th

UAS Basketball Tournament, 3-on-3 double elimination competition that features prizes, BBQ, and music at the Housing Courts. Registration is \$15. Sign up at the Student Activities Office.

Friday, May 1st

Multi-Cultural Cinco de Mayo featuring no host bar and music at the Baranof Hotel's Treadwell Room starting at 8 pm. \$3 for students and \$5 for non-students.

UAS Open Gym

Volleyball
Sundays 5-7pm
Mendenhall River
Elementary School

Basketball
Tuesdays 8:15-10pm
Wednesdays 6-8pm
Auke Bay School

Hope Scholarships. . .

Continued from page 4

students into the arms of competitors.

But in California, analysts already have recommended that state legislators consider raising tuition because, as one detailed report points out, the state would capture more federal aid. There is no indication yet of what California will do.

Expansion of need-based programs is a sure way to avoid tuition increases, said Lawrence E. Gladiux, director of policy analysis for The College Board. Because only a small population of students receive the Pell Grant, Gladiux said a school could not justify hiking prices to capture the cost. And given that an investment in the current system would extend more benefits to low-income students, why not put the \$32 billion earmarked for the HOPE Scholarship and the Lifetime Learning Credit into the Pell Grant? That's what Gladiux recommended last year when he testified before Congress. Along with the smaller programs - such as the Education IRA - about \$40 billion in education tax breaks were on the table, but little of that money went toward direct expenditures.

Between budget constraints and a conservative Congress, large-scale investment in the Pell Grant was unrealistic, Longanecker said.

"There wasn't any way to get a \$40 billion spending package," he said. "I had to be convinced of this. It became real apparent to me when [then White House advisor] George Stephanopoulos said 'You don't get it. We have to increase tax cuts, not spending.'"

That line of reasoning helped Clinton win his bid for reelection over Republican candidate Bob Dole, who touted a 15-percent, across-the-board tax cut. It also carried him through negotiations surrounding the fiscal 1998 budget.

The only government-run program Becky Stephens is counting on to help her out, she said jokingly, is the lottery. She doesn't complain about her inability to take advantage of the President's scholarship or the Lifetime Learning Credit because she says she has hope. Stroking the beads on a necklace her 8-year-old son, Josh, made for her in art class, Stephens said, "I believe that God gives you what you can deal with."



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Parker. . .

Continued from page 1

museum that's on the outskirts of Amsterdam, which is called the COBRA (Copenhagen, Brussels and Amsterdam). There was a painting movement in the 1950's that paralleled our abstract expressionist movement in the United States," said Parker. "We don't see a whole lot of those paintings in the United States so it was a great opportunity to see what people had done."

During his sabbatical in 1989 he spent time at the University of Florence in Italy. "I was interested in how they taught different parts of Italian art history compared to how we teach it," said Parker. "It was an eye-opener and I enjoyed it very much. They went into substantially more depth than we would do in a survey course here. Here, we don't have the time or in most cases, the background to go into that kind of level. In this case you wouldn't have the audience as most people in this country wouldn't be interested in going into that level of depth, unless you were at a large university."

He explained how he chooses to travel during off peak seasons. "I usually travel in the winter time when it's not crowded. I prefer the winter because the museums have very few people and it's really comfortable to look at paintings when you have no people or noise around."

The UAS professor described his experiences as being "tremendously invigorating." However, he believes that he has not only benefited personally from his experiences, as his knowledge has also been applied in the classroom. "Last semester, I took the painting students through slides, giving them a view of what these paintings looked like close up and then the history behind the imagery and the symbols that are in the paintings."

As a result of the art history classes, Parker has observed students increasing fascination with artists, their works and lives. "The more they learn the more interested they are," said Parker. "Usually we don't have art history majors here. We have a B.A. in Liberal Arts, where students can take art history, but they are primarily studio students painting a sculpture, in ceramics and printing. We really don't have high levels of art history here. Mostly we teach a survey course and are more generalists than specialists because of the size of the school." Although, there is an upper division course offered in Northwest coast art history.

Parker endeavors to vary his classes as well as broadening his student's knowledge of artists and their works. "In my painting classes we break at lunch time, and I do slide shows during the lunch hour. We get out of the classroom away from the fumes and we go to another room and I show them slides of different artists," said Parker. "Many times you are introducing them to people they have not heard of yet or maybe they didn't realize the full scope of that person."

Through teaching Parker learns as much as the students. "I like the learning for myself, in order to share that learning," he said. He clearly enjoys his work at the university and helping students to uncover their creative abilities. "I like the enthusiasm of the students. To see them start at the very beginning and through hard work get better. That's great to see," said Parker. "You can see the lights come on in them and also when you can see them raise their level of confidence in what they're doing. That's a particularly affirming aspect of teaching." He added, "I try and make them become more professional."

Courtney Richards, a UAS student, commented on Parker. "He puts you at ease and makes class so much fun," she said. "He is very encouraging and comes to you on an individual basis."

In his free time, Parker concentrates on perfecting his own art work. "Much of my life centers around art," he said. He also enjoys music. However he does have another interest that he would like to pursue in the near future. "I would like to speak better French. I enjoy other languages. So far it's been at a very elementary level." This Christmas he is planning to spend time in Belgium, where he will have the opportunity to develop his language skills further.

If you would like to improve your knowledge of the great artists or would like to present yourself with a creative challenge, think about taking up one of the many art courses that will be available during the summer session.

Native Center. . .

Continued from page 3

courage multicultural diversity on campus," she said.

Native Focus

Even though AISES has only recently been founded here, there is an older Native student organization which Adkisson advised at UAS for five years. "Wooch Een (which in Tlingit means "working together") is primarily cultural, providing both a cultural and social network for students on campus," said Adkisson. "This provides students with an active kind of comfort zone. As an Alaskan Native it feels great to have a place to go and know that there are other Native students there." Unfortunately Wooch Een is not currently active as many of the former students have since graduated or gone on to work. However, there has been keen interest from students in revitalizing the club, so hopefully we will see this club active again in the near future.

"Some people wonder why we focus on Native students. I think some of the work we are given is to take care of what is closest to us first," said Adkisson. "Native people are members of a local cultural entity, not just a racial group. It's partly based on the fact of long-standing identity, having been here for 16,000 years or so. We feel as we come to terms with changes in the community, we need to be able to feel good about the people and institutions we are in contact with and decisions that affect us. The university mission statement is quite clear in its commitment to meeting the diverse needs of Alaska Natives."

According to Adkisson, having such clubs and organizations on campus is extremely important to Native students. "I think it is very important to have a positive influence on campus. If you are a small percentage of the campus population there are very subtle cultural differences and a need to be very resilient. We have to know who we are, where we come from and how we fit in with what's going on here."

Charlene Fred, is a UAS student and Alaskan Native from the Athabaskan and Tlingit tribes. "It is important because it encourages Natives to stay in school and to meet other Natives who have things in common," she said. "When you talk to other students of the same ethnic background, it helps you to focus on your studies. It influences you to do the best that you can." Fred referred to the Native and Rural center as a "social place, where you can go to chat and share experiences with other Native people."

So if you are interested in finding out more about AISES and any forthcoming events or you simply want to meet and experience another culture, contact Pattie Adkisson or simply stop by the Native and Rural Center in the Novatney Building.

UAS Classifieds

Help Wanted

Wanted: Caring, energetic, creative men and women to provide respite for youth who experience developmental disabilities. \$7.50-\$10.00/hr. Call Mary Nelson, REACH, Inc. 586-8228.

Help Wanted: Men/Women earn \$375 weekly processing/assembling Medical I.D. Cards at home. Immediate openings, your local area. Experience unnecessary, will train. Call Medicard 1-541-386-5290 Ext. 118M.

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A public service message provided by SAWE (Suicide Awareness/Voices of Education)